The University of Tsukuba Web 2.0 Workshop 2014

A Brief Overview of Web 2.0

The term *Web 2.0* was first coined in the mid-1990s by Tim O'Reilly and Doug Dougerty of O'Reilly Media to describe the evolving state of the Internet (Budd, 2005). Although difficult to pin down, Web 2.0 can be considered as a knowledge-oriented environment where users cooperatively create malleable content that is synchronously (in real time) and asynchronously (at different times) distributed in wired and wireless networks to fixed and portable technologies such as personal computers, mobile phones, and other devices (Vallance, et al, 2009). Web 2.0 characterizes the next level of the Internet's development. Previously, content was created by a few highly skilled professionals whilst the majority of users merely consumed. In contrast, today users are actively engaged in producing content both individually and collectively. Web 2.0 companies base their services and business models on an architecture of participation, one that leverages the power of collective intelligence. In other words, Web 2.0 facilitates connections between people and ideas. The larger and more active communities are, the better and more profitable online services become. Also known as the read-write web, the Internet has become populated with numerous web-based applications that resemble and mimic the functionality of traditional computer-based software. The interactive nature of Web 2.0 technologies and their close resemblance to a social-constructivist model of learning make them attractive to English language teachers. Furthermore, given the global reach of the Internet, they provide an authentic purpose for English language communication. This potential for a world-wide audience provides both intrinsic and extrinsic motivation to learners.

(From Talandis, Jr., J. & Stout, M. (2011). *Creativity in the Language Classroom via Animoto*. In A. Stewart   (Ed.), *JALT2010 Conference Proceedings*. Tokyo: JALT)

Google Drive

Basics
1. **File storage utility**
    a. **15 Gigabytes of free space**
    b. **Can access your files from any computer with an Internet connection**
    c. **Can upload files from your computer**
2. **Can compose documents with Google Drive**

    a. **Word processing documents**
    b. **Spreadsheets**
    c. **Presentations**
    d. **Forms**
    e. **Drawings**
3. **Great collaboration tool**
    a. **Can share files and folders**
    b. **Two or more people can work on one document at the same time**
    c. **Can see the most up to date version of the document**
    d. **Can revert to older versions**
    e. **Can export as Microsoft Word Doc, Powerpoint, Excel, PDF**

Other recommended Web 2.0 applications

Quizlet
English Central
Blogger
ESLvideo.com
Animoto
Voicethread
YouTube
EnglishCentral
mindmeister
Survey Monkey

Recommended Websites

[Adopt and Adapt ICT-in-ELT](#)
[Larry Ferlazzo's Websites of the Day](#)

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